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SRI M. P. SUBRAMANYAM :—" அந்த ஸ்தாபனத்திற்கு முதலில் கடன் கொடுக்க வேண்டும் என்று முடிவுசெய்து, பிறகு கொடுக்க முடியாது என்று தீர்மானிக்கப்பட்டதாக கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்னார். அப்படிக்கொடுக்க முடியாது என்று தீர்மானம் செய்ததற்கு ஏதாகிலும் அரசியல் காரணம் இருக்குமோ என்று சந்தேகிக்க இடம் இருக்கிறதா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATASALAM :—" அரசியல் காரணமாகத்தான் இருக்கும் என்று கனம் அங்கத்தினர் எப்பொழுதும் கனவு கண்டு கொண்டிருக்கிறார். அவரை திருப்தி செய்ய முடியாது. முதலில் கடன் கொடுக்கலாம் என்று தீர்மானம் செய்தார்கள். பின்னால் அப்படிக் கடன் கொடுத்தால் அது சுலபமாக திரும்பி வராது என்று தெரிந்தவுடன் கடன் கொடுக்க மறுத்து விட்டார்கள். கடன் கொடுப்பதில் பிரயோசனம் இல்லை என்று அறிந்தபிறகுதான் அரசாங்கம் அப்படி முடிவு செய்தது."

Recovery of advances from Burma Refugees

* 1680 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state— 8–40 a.m.

(*a*) whether the Government have recovered any amount given to the refugees from Burma ; and

(*b*) if so, how much?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) No separate figures for the amounts recovered from the evacuees from Burma alone are available. The total amount recovered from the evacuees from Burma and Malaya is Rs. 8,63,362–6–3."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Sir, what is the amount still due to Government under this head from the evacuees? "

THE HON SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The total amount lent to them is Rs. 2,72,21,660. I have just now given information about the amount so far recovered. A sum of Rupees 35,85,790–2–11 has so far been written off as irrecoverable. The amount still outstanding is Rs. 2,27,68,507–6–10."

SRI S. PANCHAKSHARAM :—" Why were these amounts advanced to refugees from Burma? Were they grants or loans? If they were grants why were they ordered to be recovered? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, these were loans granted to refugees from Burma, Malaya and other places who came here during the War in pursuance of the Government of India's scheme to give financial assistance to them."

SRI C. H. KANARAN :—" Sir, in view of the fact that many are not able to pay back the loan and they are harassed to pay back the loan, will the Government stop measures taken to recover the loan from these people? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I have already stated that a considerable amount has been written off where it was not possible to recover the amount. That does not mean that we should write off the entire amount."

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" May I know, Sir, whether any amount written off has been subsidized by the Government of India? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I have no information about it just now, Sir, that is, from which source this money was paid, whether the entire money came from the Government of India or whether it was State's Government money that was advanced."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, our Union Government have written off crores of rupees due by Burma Government as a result of the partition. Now these refugees have not got any employment and they are really unable to pay back the loan. Therefore, will this Government consider writing off the entire amount that is still outstanding if the amount belonged to them or recommend to the Government of India to write off the amount if the loans were advanced from the Government of India funds? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, I do not think the information given by the hon. Member that crores of rupees of debt due from the Burma Government were written off by the India Government is correct. My information is that it is still kept pending in the books. Whether the Government of India would be able to recover it or not is a different matter. So also these amounts are shown as outstandings in the books. I do not know how much we will be able to recover out of this."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Sir, I have received some letters from people in Ernad and Ponnani taluks, mostly Muslims, who are very poor and unable to pay back the loan. They are being harassed in the collection of these loans. That is why I have asked this question. Therefore will the Government consider the question of writing off the amounts still due to Government if the people concerned are not in a position to pay and also pending such a decision will Government issue instructions to keep in abeyance all collection proceedings? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, in all cases the question whether the person is in a position to pay the loan is considered. If he is not in a position to pay back the loan, the amount is written off. The general writing off of the amount, I am afraid, will not be the correct procedure to adopt in respect of this matter."

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—" Sir, the scheme was put into force in order to enable persons to find suitable employment. Have the Government any figures to show how many of these

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persons were able to find suitable employment? May I also know what were the steps taken to recover the money due from them and the steps taken to write off the amount due from those unable to repay the loan? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Perhaps an enquiry of the sort suggested by the hon. Member will involve an expenditure of another few lakhs of rupees. Instead of doing that, each case can be considered on its own merits when the time for recovery comes."

SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE :—" Sir, on a previous occasion when this question was raised on the floor of this House it was stated that the entire amount was advanced by the Government of India as an immediate relief measure for the refugees from Burma, Malaya and other places outside India. It was also stated that the Government of Madras was only doing the collection work on behalf of the Government of India and the expenditure in this respect was met by the Government of India. Under these circumstances will the Government consider discontinuing taking further proceedings against those who are not able to pay the amount at this time? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I have not got the facts regarding the source from where the money came. But apart from that we cannot disown responsibility for collection of the amount simply because the money came from the Government of India. Wherever it is not possible to recover the amount, certainly it will be written off."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, may I know which Government initiated the idea of granting these loans; is it the Central Government or the State Government? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" It is the Central Government Sir, who formulated the scheme of financial assistance during war time."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, in issuing coercive process under civil law certain movables and income up to a certain limit are exempt from attachment. Is the same procedure followed in recovering debts due in this matter also? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I think this will come under the Revenue Recovery Act and all provisions in that Act will be applicable to in the recovery of these loans. But individual hard cases are certainly considered and wherever it is desirable, the amount is written of."

B.C.G. Vaccination

* 1681 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government recently conducted a campaign of B.C.G. vaccination in the towns of Coimbatore and Kozhikode;